

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 remain pending after entry of this amendment. Claims 16 and 17 were added herein.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Ahvenainen et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,326,835 ("Ahvenainen"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Barry et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,403,181 ("Barry"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicant respectfully reiterates the arguments made in the November 27, 2002 response and respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of these claims.

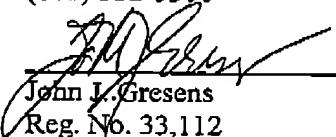
Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 3, 2003



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Applicant:	ASUMALAHTI et al.	Examiner:	D. Harlan
Serial No.:	09/720,998	Group Art Unit:	1713
Filed:	2 January 2001	Docket No.:	5848.161USW1
Title:	POLYMER COMPOSITION FOR PIPES		

GROUP 1700

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703.872.9559 on 3 September 2003.

By: 
Name: Heidi Hanson

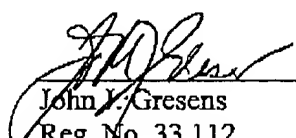
COMMUNICATION

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner please contact the undersigned to arrange a telephonic interview before the Examiner acts on the case. Applicant's Representative, John J. Gresens can be reached at 612.371.5265.

Respectfully submitted,

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